MINNESOTA STATE **POLICY**

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Chief Information Officer, State of Minnesota

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Approval: Signature on file

State of Minnesota Enterprise Architecture Program Policy

Policy Statement

The State of Minnesota will have a comprehensive Enterprise Architecture program to harmonize and coordinate information and telecommunications technology systems and services. All government entities in the executive branch will adhere to the requirements of Enterprise Architecture policies and standards.

Reason for the Policy

Minnesota Statutes 16E establishes the Office of Enterprise Technology and describes responsibilities for oversight, leadership, and direction for information and telecommunications technology policy and the management, delivery, and security of information technology in Minnesota, including the development of the state's information technology architecture's policies, standards, guidelines and processes.

The specific objectives of creating the enterprise architecture are to:

1. Harmonize and coordinate information and telecommunications technology systems and services across the State.
2. Establish a framework for providing real time, locally available and secure data/information to better serve citizens in the digital/cyber government of the future.
3. Establish the flexible, agile and secure information technology environment that provides capabilities to meet current and evolving business needs of Minnesota state government.
4. Mitigate the risks of budget constraints by producing business value through optimizing people and product asset competencies and capacities.
5. Promote reusable services that reflect a person-centric view of government service delivery while addressing unique business needs of state agencies.

The Enterprise Architecture Program will develop policies, standards, guidelines and processes which will close the gap between the current "as-is" technology environment and the targeted "to be" environment or desired outcomes necessary to support the requirements of M.S. 16E and the goals of the state's Master Plan.[1] The targeted environment will evolve and be refreshed over time. The policies, standards, guidelines and processes are developed by domain work groups employing industry best practices.[2]

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[1] *State of Minnesota Information and Telecommunications Technology Systems and Services Master Plan 2009.*
[2] Minnesota will use the best practices developed by *The Open Group Architecture Framework TOGAF™--current edition* http://www.opengroup.org/togaf/ and the *Federal Enterprise Architecture Framework* http://www.cio.gov/Documents/fedarch1.pdf

Applicability and Exclusions

This policy is applicable to all government entities in the Executive Branch of state government. Government entities in the executive branch are as defined in the "Applicability Standard" promulgated by the Enterprise Security Office.[3] Agency heads, chief information officers and their designees, budget and financial management directors, program managers, project managers and procurement personnel or other personnel who are responsible for the management of information technology systems and services should be aware of this policy. Policies and standards developed under this policy are applicable to any arrangement with third parties that handle, store or transfer government data. The Enterprise Architecture Program established by this policy is offered as guidance to local government, higher education, K-12 or other government entities, with strong encouragement for adoption in order to build the secure government systems citizens expect.

Program Compliance

Compliance by government entities with this policy is through awareness of the policy and by incorporating references to applicable policy and standard documents into all arrangements with third parties. All Enterprise Architecture policies and standards will go through the OET policy governance process.

The Enterprise Architecture Office will work with agency CIOs to assess and monitor compliance with the approved Enterprise Architecture policies and standards. The Enterprise Architecture Office will do this through architecture compliance reviews. An architecture compliance review is a scrutiny of a specific project against established architectural criteria, spirit, and business objectives. A formal process for such reviews forms the core of an Enterprise Architecture compliance strategy.

Requests for exceptions will be submitted to the Enterprise Architecture Office. Decisions of that office may be appealed to the Architecture Review Board and finally to the State CIO.

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[3] http://www.state.mn.us/mn/externalDocs/OET/bESOEnterprise_Security_Program_Applicability_Standard_ 62209_072309081937_EnterpriseSecurityProgramApplicabilityStandard_FINAL_v01.pdf